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Vengalapuram project.

* 407 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the further progress made in the investigation of the Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district?

A.—A report on the financial prospects of the project has just been received. It shows that it will be unproductive and it must be dropped.

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu:—"With reference to the answer given to this question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he has considered the conditions of the tract covered by the Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district and if so, whether it is not one of the worst portions of the district subject to famines, scanty rainfall and so forth?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"I am not aware of it. The whole point is that the amount available for what may be called protective works is strictly limited to the famine insurance fund and the help that we get from the Government of India. In order to obtain a proper solution of this question, we have to bring about the inauguration of a scheme which will certainly bring both productive and protective works within its ambit so that the sum total of the whole commitment might come within the rules framed by the Government of India as to the interest derivable from the undertaking."

Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu:—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to have this report published?"

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Yes."

Breach of Konakarai, a flood bank in Trichinopoly municipality.

*408 Q.—Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the breach of Konakarai, a flood bank within the precincts of the Trichinopoly Municipality during the floods of 1924;

(b) whether it is a fact that the breach has not yet been closed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the breach in its present condition is a source of serious danger to the Trichinopoly town and its residents;

(d) whether the Government and the Collector have received memorials from the residents requesting the Government to close the breach immediately; and

(e) what action has been taken in respect of the breach; if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government do not know exactly what part of the flood bank is referred to: the Chief Engineer has called for a report.

Irrigation in drainage channels in villages Nos. 104 and 105 in Tanjore district.

* 409 Q.—Mr. V. Pantulu Ayyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any petition or memorial was sent by the mirasidars of No. 104 Jambuvanodai and No. 105 Thillaivilagam vattams, Tirutturaipundi taluk, Tanjore district, to the District Collector of Tanjore and the Engineering department requesting them to dig out irrigation and drainage channels for the said two villages and, if so, what action was taken upon it?

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A.—The matter has been referred to the Superintending Engineer for report.

Irrigation of Soda Sudamani, Nannilam.

* 410 *Q.*—Mr. V. Pantulu Ayyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any petition was received from the Secretary of the Mirasidars' Association, Nannilam taluk, regarding the defective irrigation of the Kodamurti called the Soda Sudamani, east of Kodavasal, and, if so, whether any action was taken upon it?

A.—No such petition can be traced in the Government records.

Levy of penal water-cess in East Godavari district.

* 411 *Q.*—Mr. P. Peddiraju : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Collector levied penal water-cess on consolidated wet lands in the East Godavari district in the year 1924–25, simply because the lands were irrigated before 15th June 1924 ; if so, whether the Government authorized the same and for what reasons ; and

(*b*) what was the amount so collected in the said year?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Irrigation advisory boards.

*412 *Q.*—Mr. P. Peddiraju : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government passed any orders regarding the formation of separate Irrigation advisory boards for each of the districts in the Godavari and Kistna deltas ; and

(*b*) if so, for which districts?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 273 I., dated 3rd July 1925, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

Sangameswaram and Kistna reservoir projects.

*413 *Q.*—Mr. P. Peddiraju : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have sanctioned a separate establishment for the investigation and preparation of estimates for the Sangameswaram project and the Kistna reservoir project ; and

(*b*) if not, whether the Government intend to do so?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Not at present.

Silt clearance and conservancy in Godavari delta irrigation channels.

*414 *Q.*—Mr. P. Peddiraju : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have called from the local officials for a programme of work with reference to silt clearance and conservancy of the irrigation channels in the Godavari delta as promised by the hon. Member at the time of budget discussion in 1924 ;